

## Registering to Vote

To vote in Ohio you must:

- ✓ register at least 30 days before Election Day;
- ✓ be a citizen of the United States;
- ✓ be at least 18 years old on or before the next general election; and
- ✓ be a resident of Ohio for at least 30 days before the election (your residence is a location you consider your permanent dwelling).

## Getting Started

1. **To register to vote, you must complete a voter registration form.**  
Go to [www.MyOhioVote.com](http://www.MyOhioVote.com) to download a blank form or request one be mailed to you by the Secretary of State's office or your county board of elections. You may also pick up a voter registration form at a number of other places, including public libraries, public high schools, Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicle locations and the Department of Job and Family Services. For a complete list of locations, visit [www.MyOhioVote.com](http://www.MyOhioVote.com).
2. **Properly complete the voter registration form, including all required information noted in the instructions.**
3. **Once you have completed your registration, return it by mail to the Secretary of State's office, your county board of elections or one of the locations listed previously in #1.**  
You will then be sent a notice from your county board identifying your voting precinct location.
4. **You may check your voter information at [www.MyOhioVote.com](http://www.MyOhioVote.com).**  
If the search does not return your information, please contact your county board of elections to check on the status of your registration.

## Keep Your Registration Current

If you are registered to vote but have moved within Ohio and/or changed your name, you should update your voter registration at least 30 days prior to the election. You can do so by:

- submitting a new registration form with your new residence and/or name; or
- using the Online Change of Address System available at [www.MyOhioVote.com](http://www.MyOhioVote.com) (for address changes only).

## Your Options for Voting

### Voting on Election Day

- Polls are open on Election Day from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- You must cast your ballot in your precinct at your designated polling place.
- If you do not know the location of your precinct or polling place, please contact your county board of elections or use the voter lookup tool available on the Secretary of State's website, [www.MyOhioVote.com](http://www.MyOhioVote.com).
- Remember to bring an acceptable form of identification to the polls on Election Day.

### Acceptable Form of Identification Examples

- A current and valid driver's license or state identification card
- A copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, or paycheck that shows your name and address
- Military identification

*If you have questions about the particular identification that you plan to use on Election Day, contact your local board of elections.*

### Absentee Voting by Mail

If you are a qualified Ohio voter and your registration is up to date, you are eligible to cast an absentee ballot.

- Absentee voting begins 35 days before Election Day.
- You must request no later than noon on the Saturday before an election that an absentee ballot be mailed to you, though you should request an absentee ballot as early as possible to have time to receive, vote and return your ballot.
- You may also download a request form at [www.MyOhioVote.com](http://www.MyOhioVote.com).
- Absentee ballot application forms are available from the Secretary of State's office or your county board of elections.

Once you receive your absentee ballot, vote your ballot and seal it in the completed and signed identification envelope provided.

You may then return the ballot either by mail (must be received by your board of elections prior to 7:30 p.m. on Election Day or postmarked no later than the day before the

election) or in person to your county board office (must be received by the close of polls on Election Day).

### Early In-Person Absentee Voting

Starting 35 days before the election, you may cast your absentee ballot in person at your county board of elections or voting center as designated by the county. Check with your county board of elections for more specific information.

### [www.MyOhioVote.com](http://www.MyOhioVote.com)

Your online resource for Ohio elections and voting.

Find out more about:

- races and issues on your ballot
- your voter information and polling place
- updating your address online
- statewide election results
- county board of elections directory

And find answers to your most frequently asked questions.

**Be prepared. Be informed.  
Make Your Vote Count.**



### Common Reasons for Voting a Provisional Ballot

Any of the following scenarios would require you to cast a provisional ballot on Election Day. For a complete list, visit [www.MyOhioVote.com](http://www.MyOhioVote.com).

- You are not registered to vote or did not update your address at least 30 days prior to the election.
- You are unable or decline to provide an acceptable form of identification (see list on previous panel).
- You already requested an absentee ballot for that election.

The content of a provisional ballot is the same as a regular ballot, but it is cast "provisionally" until election officials can verify your eligibility to vote.

If you cast a provisional ballot and did not provide an acceptable form of identification, you must appear in person at the board of elections within 10 days immediately following Election Day with your ID for your ballot to be counted. For more information on provisional ballots visit [www.MyOhioVote.com](http://www.MyOhioVote.com).



As an Ohio voter, when I exercise my **RIGHT** to vote on Election Day, I have a **RESPONSIBILITY** to do my part.

**My Right • My Responsibility**

**I will...**

- Register to vote 30 days prior to Election Day and keep my contact information up-to-date
- Remember to bring appropriate identification with me to the polls
- Know my proper polling place & precinct

# Guide to Voting in Ohio

Follow OhioSOSHusted:










For more information visit [www.MyOhioVote.com](http://www.MyOhioVote.com)

Elections Division  
180 E. Broad St., 15th Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
(614) 466-2585  
Toll-Free: (877) SOS-OHIO (767-6446)  
TTY Toll-Free: (877) TTY-OHIO (889-6446)  
TTY: (614) 728-3295  
[www.OhioSecretaryofState.gov](http://www.OhioSecretaryofState.gov)  
[election@OhioSecretaryofState.gov](mailto:election@OhioSecretaryofState.gov)

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Dear Ohio Voter:

Our American democracy is strongest when citizens at every level participate. In our system, citizens are elected to serve others. These leaders are empowered by their fellow citizens, who use their right to vote. This concept resonates through each level of government-federal, state and your local community.

This Guide to Voting in Ohio will help you prepare for the upcoming election. The guide contains information on voter registration and details absentee balloting requirements as well as what to expect at your polling location on Election Day.

When you complete your ballot—whether at the polling place or in the comfort of your own home—realize that your participation is the driving force behind our system.

Sincerely,



Jon Husted  
Ohio Secretary of State

## Helpful Links


This guide provides general information about registering to vote and casting a ballot in Ohio. For more detailed information and special provisions for voters with disabilities, visit [www.MyOhioVote.com](http://www.MyOhioVote.com).

More information is also available specific to military and overseas voters.

For Ohio military voters, visit: [www.OhioMilitaryVotes.com](http://www.OhioMilitaryVotes.com)

For Ohio citizens living overseas, visit: [www.OhioVoterPassport.com](http://www.OhioVoterPassport.com)

Or contact our office at:  
(877) SOS-OHIO (767-6446)  
TTY: (877) TTY-OHIO (889-6446)



- Get a front row seat on Election Day by staffing a polling place
- Do your part for your country, state and local community
- Earn extra spending money in the process

To become a P.E.O. in Ohio, sign up for more information at [www.PEOinOhio.com](http://www.PEOinOhio.com)